What is claimed is:

1. A method for accessing documents using a graphical user interface, the method comprising the steps of:

5   accessing document properties for a document, the document properties indicating at least one of a size of the document, an age of the document, and a time associated with the document;

rendering a document selection display that provides a document identifier associated with the document, the document identifier indicating, on the document

10   selection display, a correlation between at least two of the size of the document, the age of the document, and the time associated with the document;

receiving a user document selection associated with the document identifier; and

retrieving the document associated with the document identifier.

15   2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of accessing document properties for a document comprises the steps of:

detecting an update signal indicating that the document properties for the document should be updated;

in response to the update signal:

20   obtaining a document identity for the document;

forwarding the document identity in a document property request signal to a document server process in order to obtain the document properties for the document identified by the document identity;

receiving the document properties for the document in a document

25   property response signal from the document server process; and

storing the document properties in a document properties file.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the update signal is automatically and periodically generated such that document properties for the document are automatically and

30   periodically updated.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein, in response to the update signal, the step of accessing document properties for a document further comprises the steps of:

    forwarding a time request signal to a document server computer system operating

5   the document server process;

    receiving a time response signal from the document server computer system operating the document server process, the time response signal indicating an available communications bandwidth to the document server computer system; and

    computing a time document property associated with the document based on the

10   time response signal and a document property corresponding to the size of the document.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of rendering a document selection display comprises the steps of:

    displaying a correlation framework including indices that provide a visual

15   correlation between at least two of sizes of documents, ages of documents, and times associated with documents; and

    displaying the document identifier within the correlation framework at a location that indicates at least two of the size of the document, the age of the document, and a time associated with the document in relation to the indices of the correlation framework to

20   provide an indication of document property relationships for the document associated with the document identifier.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the steps of accessing and rendering are performed for a plurality of documents using a single correlation framework, such that document

25   identifiers displayed in the single correlation framework for respective documents in the plurality of documents provide an indication of document property relationships between the plurality of documents.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein the step of displaying a correlation framework displays the correlation framework as a multi-dimensional grid having a respective indici corresponding to each of size, age, and time of documents.

5   8. The method of claim 5 wherein:

the correlation framework is a first correlation framework that includes a first set of correlations between document properties for a first set of documents, and wherein the step of rendering a document selection display further includes the steps of:

displaying selections of multiple correlation frameworks on the graphical user

10   interface, each selection associated with a respective correlation framework that provides a correlation between document properties associated with a respective set of documents;

receiving, from the selections of multiple correlation frameworks, a selection of a second correlation framework which correlates document identifiers for a second set of documents to be displayed on the document selection display; and

15   in response to the step of receiving a selection of a second correlation framework, displaying the second correlation framework including indices that provide a visual correlation between at least two of sizes, ages, and times associated with the second set of documents.

20   9. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of displaying the second correlation framework replaces the first correlation framework with the second correlation framework on the graphical user interface to present a visual correlation of document properties associated with the second set of documents.

25   10. The method of claim 5 wherein the step of rendering a document selection display further comprises the steps of:

displaying a document link display within the document selection display, the document link display including a document link associated with the document for which the document identifier is displayed on the correlation framework;

wherein the step of receiving a user document selection associated with the document identifier comprises a step of receiving a user selection of the document link in the document link display associated with the document for which the document identifier is displayed on the correlation framework; and

5   in response to receiving the user document selection, displaying at least a portion of the document properties associated with the document corresponding to the user document selection.

11. The method of claim 5 wherein the step of displaying the document identifier within

10   the correlation framework displays the document identifier according to a first perspective visual correlation and wherein the step of rendering a document selection display further comprises the steps of:

displaying at least one view control within the document selection display, the at least one view control allowing a user to manipulate the correlation framework;

15   detecting a view change operation on the at least one view control; and

in response to the step of detecting, transforming the first perspective visual correlation to a second perspective visual correlation based on the view change operation.

12. The method of claim 5 wherein the document selection display includes a document

20   access mechanism and wherein the step of receiving a user document selection associated with the document identifier includes the step of detecting operation of the document access mechanism; and

wherein the step of retrieving the document associated with the document identifier is performed in response to the step of detecting operation of the document

25   access mechanism and includes the steps of:

displaying a document display area on the graphical user interface;

retrieving contents of the document; and

displaying the contents of the document in a document display area on the graphical user interface.

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13. The method of claim 12 wherein the document access mechanism is at least one of:

    i) a selection of a document identifier;

    ii) a selection of a document link; and

    iii) a selection of a document page selection.

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14. A computer system comprising:

    an input output interface;

    a communications interface;

    a display;

10   a memory;

    a processor; and

    an interconnection mechanism coupling the input output interface, the communications interface, the display, the memory and the processor;

    wherein the memory is encoded with a document viewer application that when 15 performed on the processor, produces a document viewer process that causes the computer system to display a graphical user interface on the display allowing a user to access documents by performing the operations of:

    accessing document properties for a document, the document properties indicating at least one of a size of the document, an age of the document, and a time associated with 20 the document;

    rendering a document selection display on the graphical user interface that provides a document identifier associated with the document, the document identifier indicating, on the document selection display, a correlation between at least two of the size of the document, the age of the document, and the time associated with the 25 document;

    receiving a user document selection associated with the document identifier via the input output interface; and

    retrieving the document associated with the document identifier via the communications interface.

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15. The computer system of claim 14 wherein when the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of accessing document properties for a document, the computer system performs the steps of:

detecting an update signal indicating that the document properties for the

5   document should be updated;

in response to the update signal:

obtaining a document identity for the document;

forwarding the document identity in a document property request

signal, via the communications interface, to a document server process in

10   order to obtain the document properties for the document identified by the

document identity;

receiving, via the communications interface, the document

properties for the document in a document property response signal from

the document server process; and

15   storing the document properties in a document properties file.

16. The computer system of claim 15 wherein the document viewer process automatically and periodically generates the update signal such that document properties for the document are automatically and periodically updated.

20

17. The computer system of claim 15 wherein in the step of accessing document properties for a document, the computer system further performs the steps of:

forwarding a time request signal to a document server computer system operating the document server process;

25   receiving a time response signal from the document server computer system operating the document server process, the time response signal indicating an available communications bandwidth to the document server computer system; and

computing a time document property associated with the document based on the time response signal and a document property corresponding to the size of the document.

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18. The computer system of claim 14 wherein when the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of rendering a document selection display, the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the steps of:

      displaying, on the graphical user interface on the display, a correlation framework

5   including indices that provide a visual correlation between at least two of sizes of documents, ages of documents, and times associated with documents; and

      displaying, on the graphical user interface on the display, the document identifier within the correlation framework at a location that indicates at least two of the size of the document, the age of the document, and a time associated with the document in relation

10   to the indices of the correlation framework to provide an indication of document property relationships for the document associated with the document identifier.

19. The computer system of claim 18 wherein the document viewer process performs the steps of accessing and rendering for a plurality of documents using a single correlation

15   framework displayed on the graphical user interface on the display of the computer system, such that document identifiers displayed in the single correlation framework for respective documents in the plurality of documents provide an indication of document property relationships between the plurality of documents.

20   20. The computer system of claim 18 wherein when the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of displaying a correlation framework, the document viewer process causes the computer system to display the correlation framework as a multi-dimensional grid having a respective indici corresponding to each of size, age, and time of documents.

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21. The computer system of claim 18 wherein:

      the correlation framework is a first correlation framework that includes a first set of correlations between document properties for a first set of documents; and

wherein when the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of rendering a document selection display, the document viewer process causes the computer system to further perform the steps of:

displaying selections of multiple correlation frameworks on the graphical user

5   interface, each selection associated with a respective correlation framework that provides a correlation between document properties associated with a respective set of documents;

receiving, from the selections of multiple correlation frameworks, a selection of a second correlation framework which correlates document identifiers for a second set of documents to be displayed on the document selection display; and

10   in response to the step of receiving a selection of a second correlation framework, displaying the second correlation framework including indices that provide a visual correlation between at least two of sizes, ages, and times associated with the second set of documents.

15   22. The computer system of claim 21 wherein when the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of displaying the second correlation framework, the document viewer process causes the computer system to replaces the first correlation framework with the second correlation framework on the graphical user interface on the display.

20

23. The computer system of claim 18 wherein when the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of rendering a document selection display, the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the steps of:

displaying a document link display within the document selection display, the

25   document link display including a document link associated with the document for which the document identifier is displayed on the correlation framework; and

wherein the step of receiving a user document selection associated with the document identifier includes the step of receiving a user selection of the document link in the document link display associated with the document for which the document

30   identifier is displayed on the correlation framework; and

in response to receiving the user document selection, displaying at least a portion of the document properties associated with the document corresponding to the user document selection.

5   24. The computer system of claim 18 wherein when the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of displaying the document identifier within the correlation framework, the computer system displays the document identifier according to a first perspective visual correlation on the display; and

        wherein when the document viewer process causes the computer system to

10   perform the step of rendering a document selection display, the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the steps of:

        displaying at least one view control within the document selection display, the at least one view control allowing a user to manipulate the correlation framework;

        detecting a view change operation on the at least one view control; and

15   in response to the step of detecting, transforming the first perspective visual correlation to a second perspective visual correlation based on the view change operation.

25. The computer system of claim 18:

        wherein the document viewer process produces a document selection display on

20   the display that includes a document access mechanism;

        wherein the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of receiving a user document selection associated with the document identifier, wherein the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of detecting operation of the document access mechanism; and

25   wherein the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the step of retrieving the document associated with the document identifier in response to the step of detecting operation of the document access mechanism, the document viewer process causes the computer system to perform the steps of:

           displaying a document display area on the graphical user interface on the

30   display;

retrieving a contents of the document; and

displaying the contents of a document in a document display area on the

graphical user interface.

5   26. The computer system of claim 25 wherein the document access mechanism is

operated by a user using the input output interface to select, on the graphical user

interface on the display, at least one of:

i) a selection of a document identifier;

ii) a selection of a document link; and

10   iii) a selection of a document page selection.

27. A computer system comprising:

an input output interface;

a communications interface;

15   a display;

a memory;

a processor; and

an interconnection mechanism coupling the input output interface, the

communications interface, the display, the memory and the processor;

20   wherein the memory is encoded with a document viewer application that when

performed on the processor, produces a document viewer process that provides a means

for the computer system to display a graphical user interface on the display allowing a

user to access documents, such means including:

means for accessing document properties for a document, the document properties

25   indicating at least one a size of the document, an age of the document, and a time

associated with the document;

means for rendering a document selection display on the graphical user interface

that provides a document identifier associated with the document, the document identifier

indicating, on the document selection display, a correlation between at least two of the

size of the document, the age of the document, and the time associated with the

document;

means for receiving a user document selection associated with the document

identifier via the input output interface; and

5   means for retrieving the document associated with the document identifier via the

communications interface.

28. The computer system of claim 27 wherein the means for rendering a document

selection display further comprises:

10   means for displaying a correlation framework including indices that provide a

correlation between at least two of sizes of documents, ages of documents, and times

associated with documents; and

means for displaying the document identifier within the correlation framework at

a location that indicates at least two of the size of the document, the age of the document,

15   and a time associated with the document in relation to the indices of the correlation

framework to provide an indication of document property relationships for the document

associated with the document identifier.

29. A computer program product having a computer-readable medium including

20   computer program logic encoded thereon that, when performed on a computer system

having a coupling of a memory, a processor, and a display provides a method for

accessing document content using a graphical user interface on the display of the

computer system by performing the operations of:

accessing document properties for a document, the document properties indicating

25   at least one of a size of the document, an age of the document, and a time associated with

the document;

rendering a document selection display that provides a document identifier

associated with the document, the document identifier indicating, on the document

selection display, a correlation between at least two of the size of the document, the age

30   of the document, and the time associated with the document;

receiving a user document selection associated with the document identifier; and

retrieving the document associated with the document identifier.

30. The computer program product of claim 29 wherein the computer program logic that,

5   when performed on the computer system, causes the computer system to perform the

operation of rendering a document selection display further causes the computer system

to perform the operations of:

displaying a correlation framework including indices that provide a correlation

between at least two of sizes of documents, ages of documents, and times associated with

10   documents; and

displaying the document identifier within the correlation framework at a location

that indicates at least two of the size of the document, the age of the document, and a time

associated with the document in relation to the indices of the correlation framework to

provide an indication of document property relationships for the document associated

15   with the document identifier.

31. A method for correlating document information using a graphical user interface, the

method comprising the steps of:

displaying a correlation framework on the graphical user interface, the correlation

20   framework including indices that provide a correlation between document properties; and

displaying a document identifier within the correlation framework at a location on

the correlation framework that provides an indication of values associated with document

properties of the document associated with the document identifier, thus providing an

indication of document property values for document properties of the document

25   associated with the document identifier.

32. The method of claim 31, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a selection of the document identifier from within the correlation

framework; and

accessing the document associated with the document identifier in response to receiving the selection of the document identifier associated with the document.

33. The method of claim 31 wherein the document properties include at least two of sizes of documents, ages of documents, and times associated with documents.